

Appl. Serial No. 10/688,489
Amendment dated April 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 27, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the above-captioned Application in accordance with the following Listing of Claims. This Listing will replace all prior versions, and Listings, of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

1-17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A kit for amplifying a target nucleic acid sequence that may be present in a biological sample, comprising:

a first primer that ~~comprises~~ consists of a 3' terminal target-complementary sequence and optionally a first primer upstream sequence that is not complementary to said target nucleic acid sequence that is to be amplified, said 3' terminal target-complementary sequence of said first primer comprising ~~22~~ consisting of 22-24 contiguous bases contained within SEQ ID NO:74, and said 3' terminal target-complementary sequence of said first primer being fully contained within the sequence of SEQ ID NO:74, allowing for the presence of RNA and DNA equivalents; and

a second primer that ~~comprises~~ consists of a 3' terminal target-complementary sequence and optionally a second primer upstream sequence that is not complementary to said target nucleic acid sequence that is to be amplified, said 3' terminal target-complementary sequence of said second primer comprising ~~18~~ consisting of 18-31 contiguous bases contained within SEQ ID NO:59, and said 3' terminal target-complementary sequence of said second primer being fully contained within the sequence of SEQ ID NO:59, allowing for the presence of RNA and DNA equivalents.

19. (Original) The kit of Claim 18, wherein said first primer and said second primer are each up to 60 bases in length.

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20-22 (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The kit of Claim [[21]] 18, wherein said 3' terminal target-complementary sequence of said second primer is up to 22 bases in length.

24. (Original) The kit of Claim 23, wherein said first primer comprises said first primer upstream sequence.

25. (Original) The kit of Claim 24, wherein said first primer upstream sequence comprises a promoter sequence for T7 RNA polymerase.

26. (Original) The kit of Claim 23, wherein said 3' terminal target-complementary sequence of said first primer is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:75, SEQ ID NO:76 and SEQ ID NO:77, and wherein said 3' terminal target-complementary sequence of said second primer is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:60, SEQ ID NO:62, SEQ ID NO:63, SEQ ID NO:64, SEQ ID NO:65, SEQ ID NO:66, SEQ ID NO:67, SEQ ID NO:68, SEQ ID NO:69, SEQ ID NO:70 and SEQ ID NO:71.

27-28 (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) The kit of Claim [[21]] 18, wherein said first primer comprises said first primer upstream sequence.

30. (Original) The kit of Claim 29, wherein said first primer upstream sequence comprises a promoter sequence for T7 RNA polymerase.

31-82 (Canceled)